

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for inhibiting a Th2 cytokine and/or inducing a Th1 cytokine, comprising administering to a subject ~~in need thereof~~ an effective amount of an isolated CpG oligodeoxynucleotide, wherein said oligonucleotide consists of the sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1:~~ SEQ ID NOs:2-8

[formula] ~~SYSSACGTTSNYRAWMYTC (SEQ ID NO. 1)~~

~~wherein, S is G or C; Y is C or T; N is any one selected from the group consisting of A, G, T and C; R is G or A; W is A or T; and M is A or C, and wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide comprises at least two unmethylated CpG motifs, wherein said administering results in inhibition of a Th2 cytokine and/or induction of a Th1 cytokine in said subject.~~

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the Th2 cytokine is IL-4 or IL-10.

3. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the Th1 cytokine is IL-12 or IFN- γ .

4. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the YS or YR dinucleotide in the formula is CG.

5. (canceled)

6. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide has a phosphodiester or phosphorothioate backbone.

7. (currently amended) A method for stimulating an immune response, comprising administering to a subject ~~in need thereof~~ an effective amount of an isolated CpG oligodeoxynucleotide, wherein said oligonucleotide consists of the sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1:~~ SEQ ID NOs:2-8

—— [formula] ~~SYSSACGTTSNYRAWMYTC (SEQ ID NO. 1)~~

~~wherein S is G or C; Y is C or T; N is any one selected from the group consisting of A, G, T and C; R is G or A; W is A or T; and M is A or C, and wherein the CpG~~

oligodeoxynucleotide comprises at least two unmethylated CpG motifs, wherein said administering results in stimulation of an immune response in said subject, and wherein said immune response is mediated by inhibiting a Th2 cytokine and inducing a Th1 cytokine.

8. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the YS or YR dinucleotide in the formula is CG.

9. (canceled)

10. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide has a phosphodiester or phosphorothioate backbone.

11. (currently amended) A method for treating an inflammatory skin disease in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of an isolated CpG oligodeoxynucleotide, wherein said oligonucleotide consists of the sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1:~~ SEQ ID NOS:2-8

[formula] ~~SYSSACGTTSNYRAWMYTC (SEQ ID NO. 1)~~

~~wherein S is G or C; Y is C or T; N is any one selected from the group consisting of A, G, T and C; R is G or A; W is A or T; and M is A or C,~~ and wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide comprises at least two unmethylated CpG motifs, wherein said administering is correlated with an improvement of an inflammatory skin disease symptom in said subject.

12. (original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the YS or YR dinucleotide in the above formula is CG.

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide has a phosphodiester or phosphorothioate backbone.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the inflammatory skin disease is selected from the group consisting of atopic dermatitis, allergic skin disease, and viral skin disease.

16. (previously presented) A composition for treating or preventing an inflammatory skin disease in a subject, comprising an isolated CpG oligodeoxynucleotide, wherein said oligonucleotide consists of the sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1~~; SEQ ID NOs:2-8

~~{formula}~~ SYYSACGTTSNYRAWMYTC (SEQ ID NO. 1)

~~wherein S is G or C; Y is C or T; N is any one selected from the group consisting of A, G, T and C; R is G or A; W is A or T; and M is A or C, and wherein the CpG oligodeoxynucleotide comprises at least two unmethylated CpG motifs.~~

17-21. (cancelled)

22. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammatory skin disease is atopic dermatitis.

23. (new) The composition of claim 16, wherein the inflammatory skin disease is atopic dermatitis.